



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

***Raised Bill No. 6414***

LCO No. 2814



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:  
(HS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING NONEMERGENCY MEDICAL  
TRANSPORTATION FOR MEDICAID RECIPIENTS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 17b-276 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2013*):

3 (a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall identify geographic  
4 areas of the state where competitive bidding for nonemergency  
5 transportation services provided to medical assistance recipients to  
6 access covered medical services would result in cost savings to the  
7 state. For the identified areas, the Commissioner of Social Services, in  
8 consultation with the Commissioner of Transportation, the  
9 Commissioner of Public Health and the Secretary of the Office of  
10 Policy and Management, shall purchase such nonemergency  
11 transportation services through a competitive bidding process. Any  
12 transportation providers awarded a contract or subcontract for the  
13 direct provision of such services shall meet state licensure or  
14 certification requirements and the nonemergency transportation  
15 requirements established by the Department of Social Services, and  
16 shall provide the most cost effective transportation service, provided

17 any contractor awarded a contract solely for coordinating such  
18 transportation services shall not be required to meet such licensure or  
19 certification requirements and provided the first such contracts for the  
20 purchase of such services shall not exceed one year. Prior to awarding  
21 a contract pursuant to this section, the Commissioner of Social Services  
22 shall consider the effect of the contract on the emergency ambulance  
23 primary service areas and volunteer ambulance services affected by  
24 the contract. The commissioner may limit the geographic areas to be  
25 served by a contractor and may limit the amount of services to be  
26 performed by a contractor. The commissioner may operate one or  
27 more pilot programs prior to state-wide operation of a competitive  
28 bidding program for nonemergency transportation services. By  
29 enrolling in the Medicaid program or participating in the  
30 competitively bid contract for nonemergency transportation services,  
31 providers of nonemergency transportation services agree to offer to  
32 recipients of medical assistance all types or levels of transportation  
33 services for which they are licensed or certified. [Effective October 1,  
34 1991] Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, payment for  
35 such services shall be made only for services provided to an eligible  
36 recipient who is actually transported. A contract entered into pursuant  
37 to this section may include services provided by another state agency.  
38 Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, a contract  
39 entered into pursuant to this section shall establish the rates to be paid  
40 for the transportation services provided under the contract. A contract  
41 entered into pursuant to this section may include services provided by  
42 another state agency and shall supersede any conflicting provisions of  
43 the regulations of Connecticut state agencies pertaining to medical  
44 transportation services. Any contractor awarded a contract for  
45 coordinating nonemergency transportation services for medical  
46 assistance recipients, who also coordinates transportation services for  
47 nonmedical assistance recipients, shall disclose to any transportation  
48 provider, with whom it subcontracts to provide nonemergency  
49 transportation services under this section, the source of payment at the  
50 time the service is requested.

51 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of the general statutes, for  
 52 purposes of administering medical assistance programs, including, but  
 53 not limited to, programs administered pursuant to Title XIX or Title  
 54 XXI of the Social Security Act, the Department of Social Services shall  
 55 be the sole state agency that sets emergency and nonemergency  
 56 medical transportation fees or fee schedules for any transportation  
 57 services that are reimbursed by the department for said medical  
 58 assistance programs. Effective July 1, 2011, the Commissioner of Social  
 59 Services shall reduce, by not more than ten per cent, the rates in effect  
 60 on December 31, 2010, for emergency ambulance transportation fees  
 61 that are directly reimbursed by the Department of Social Services,  
 62 provided the commissioner may increase such rates at such time when  
 63 the commissioner determines there are sufficient funds and a  
 64 reasonable need for such rate increase.

65 (c) The Commissioner of Social Services shall seek a waiver from  
 66 federal Medicaid requirements to establish reimbursement for  
 67 nonemergency medical transportation services provided in cases  
 68 where a Medicaid recipient fails to appear at a scheduled pick-up time  
 69 and location. The rate shall be set at fifty per cent of the prevailing rate  
 70 for nonemergency medical transportation services.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	17b-276

***Statement of Purpose:***

To provide partial reimbursement for providers of nonemergency medical transportation when Medicaid recipients fail to show up for scheduled pick-up appointments.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*